201P20240WOUS Torsten Wahler

REMARKS

Claim Status

Claims 1-12 are currently pending. Claim 6 has been cancelled and incorporated into claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 1, the Examiner objected to claim 2 for lacking a period at the end of the claim. The claim has been amended above to include the period. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

In paragraph 2, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 10 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Burkart (US Patent 6,470,762). Applicant traverses.

In paragraph 3 and 4 the Examiner indicated that claims 6-9 and 11-12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form incorporating the subject matter of intermediate claims. This is noted with appreciation. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include claim 6. Accordingly, the claims are now considered allowable and reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

The present response is intended to correspond with the Revised Amendment Format. Applicant understands that with the Revised Amendment Format, the provisions of 37 CFR §1.121 are waived. Should any part of the present response not be in full compliance with the requirements of the Revised Amendment Format, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned for immediate correction.

In the event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension of time and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees in connection with the filing of this document to <u>Deposit Account No.: 502464</u> referencing <u>client</u> <u>reference: 2001P20240WOUS</u>. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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